

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE: DPFOTENHAUER/GLRUECKERT:RF

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EUR/EE:EHURWITZ

EB/AN:PGLASOE

EB/AN:RCPARR

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R 012357Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USMISSION BERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089871

E.O. 11652: GDS

AGS: PGOV, ETRN, WB, CZ

SUBJECT: CZECH REFUSAL PERMISSION MAT CHARTER FLIGHT

REF: A. BONN 6705

B. BERLIN 701

C. PRAGUE 820

1. DEPARTMENT AGREES THAT CZECH REFUSAL OF MAT CHARTER REQUEST, ON BASIS THAT IT CONSTITUTES AN IMPROPER USE OF BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS, REQUIRES PROMPT REPLY. MAT ALSO INFORMS US THAT IT WISHES SEEK CZECH RECONSIDERATION OF MAY 23 CHARTER FLIGHT WHICH IT COULD OPERATE ON SHORT NOTICE.

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2. EMBASSY PRAGUE ACCORDINGLY AUTHORIZED TO DELIVER NOTE

WITH FOLLOWING SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT TO MFA AT EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. BEGIN TEXT: THE EMBASSY REGRETS THE REFUSAL OF THE APPLICATION FOR A CHARTER FLIGHT FROM WEST BERLIN TO PRAGUE BY MODERN AIR TRANSPORT, INC., A UNITED STATES CARRIER. SUCH A FLIGHT WOULD IN NO WAY BE INCOMPATIBLE WITH ESTABLISHED PRACTICES AND QUADRIPARTITELY AGREED RULES FOR UTILIZATION OF THE AIR CORRIDORS AND BERLIN CONTROL ZONE. EMBASSY ACCORDINGLY REQUESTS RECONSIDERATION OF MAT CHARTER FLIGHT FOR MAY AND HOPES THAT THIS AND ANY FUTURE APPLICATION OF THIS KIND WOULD RECEIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION. END TEXT.

3. AT TIME OF DELIVERY OF NOTE, EMBASSY PRAGUE SHOULD, UNLESS IT PERCEIVES OBJECTIONS, MAKE ADDITIONAL POINT ORALLY. AS CZECHOSLOVAK AERONAUTICAL AUTHORITIES ARE PRESUMABLY AWARE, THE CZECHOSLOVAK AIRLINE (CSA) HAS IN THE PAST OPERATED CHARTER FLIGHTS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND POINTS OTHER THAN IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA SUBJECT ONLY TO THE REQUIREMENT OF OBTAINING ADVANCE APPROVAL FROM THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD. SUCH APPROVAL HAS ROUTINELY BEEN FORTHCOMING. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT THIS LIBERAL POLICY WOULD BE MET WITH RECIPROCAL TREATMENT OF U.S. CHARTER FLIGHTS BY CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

4. USBER SHOULD ADVISE BRITISH AND FRENCH OF U.S. RESPONSE, BUT NO COORDINATED ACTION IS NECESSARY. RUSH

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